

Application No. 10/599,847
Amendment dated January 31, 2012
Reply to Office Action dated November 15, 2011

REMARKS

Claims 20–35 are pending and have been added. Claims 1–19 have been canceled.

Responsive to the Examiner's objection regarding the title, Applicants respectfully submit that the present title, namely, "Adjustably mounted spray nozzle for windshield washer fluid of a motor vehicle" is sufficiently descriptive, though if the Examiner does not agree, Applicants welcome the Examiner's recommendation for a more suitable title.

The Examiner rejected Claims 11 and 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,050,503 to Suhring ("Suhring '503"), and rejected Claims 12, 13, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious in view of Suhring '503.

Suhring '503 discloses a spray arrangement for applying liquid to a vehicle window. Referring to the embodiment of Fig. 5c relied upon by the Examiner, nozzle body 7 is preferably integral with nozzle holder 2, such that these components rotate together (col. 4, lines 8-10). As shown in Fig. 5c, nozzle body 7 is installed within an aperture 6 in a vehicle part 3 (i.e., a housing) in a manner in which the upper portion of nozzle body 7 that includes nozzle insert 4 and heating device 5 are disposed externally of the vehicle part 3. A front portion of nozzle holder 2 includes a grooved edge 9 which is pivotally fitted about an edge of aperture 6, and a latching clip element (unnumbered in Fig. 5c) is in engagement with an opposite edge of aperture 6 to retain nozzle body 7 in a adjustably mounted position within aperture 6. Adjustment of the rotational position of nozzle body 7 is effected by actuating adjustment screw 11 which, as shown in Fig. 5c, appears to be disposed externally of vehicle part 3.

New independent Claim 20 calls for the combination of a motor vehicle having a housing with a first opening providing access to an interior of the housing, a spray nozzle body disposed substantially entirely within the interior of the housing, and a spray nozzle outlet aligned with the first opening, and an adjusting drive manipulator including a threaded spindle and a manually rotatable handwheel, the threaded spindle disposed within the interior of the housing.

Referring to Fig. 1 of the present application, the housing is shown as fairing element 2 which, as shown in Figs. 1 and 5, includes an opening 15 providing access to the interior of the housing 2. As shown throughout the figures, spray nozzle body 4 is disposed substantially

Application No. 10/599,847
Amendment dated January 31, 2012
Reply to Office Action dated November 15, 2011

entirely within the interior of the housing 2 and, as shown in Fig. 5, includes a spray nozzle outlet in alignment with the opening 15 of the housing 2. Further, as best shown in Fig. 2, adjusting drive manipulator 11 includes a threaded spindle 14 and a manually rotatable handwheel 13, with the threaded spindle 14 disposed within the interior of the housing 2.

This structure is not disclosed in Suhring '503.

Referring to Fig. 5c of Suhring '503, spray nozzle body 7 is not disposed substantially entirely within an interior of a housing, i.e., substantially entirely within the interior of vehicle part 3. Rather, a substantial portion of nozzle body 7 projects outwardly from aperture 6 in vehicle part 3. Screw 11 also appears to be disposed externally of vehicle part 3, perhaps in order to facilitate adjustment of nozzle body 7 from exteriorly of vehicle part 3, and therefore is also not disposed within the interior of a housing, as claimed.

New independent Claim 28 call for the combination of a motor vehicle having a housing, a spray nozzle body including a pair of pivot pins together defining a bearing axis about which the spray nozzle body is rotatable, with the pivot pins rotatably mounted to the housing, and an adjusting drive manipulator configured as a threaded spindle including a manually-rotatable handwheel.

Referring to Fig. 1 of the present application, the housing is shown as fairing element 2. As shown in Fig. 4, nozzle body 4 includes a pair of pivot pins 8 together defining a bearing axis 7 about which nozzle body 4 is rotatable, with pivot pins 8 rotatably mounted to the housing 2

This structure is also not disclosed in Suhring '503.

Rather, referring to Fig. 5c of Suhring '503, a front portion of nozzle holder 2 includes a grooved edge 9 which is pivotally fitted about an edge of aperture 6, and a latching clip element (unnumbered in Fig. 5c) is in engagement with an opposite edge of aperture 6 to retain nozzle body 7 in a adjustably mounted position within aperture 6. Thus, nozzle body 7 lacks pivot pins that define an axis about which nozzle body 7 may be rotated.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that new independent Claims 20 and 28, and the claims depending therefrom, are not anticipated by Suhring '503. Further, Suhring '503 includes no teaching or suggestion by which one of ordinary skill in the art, having

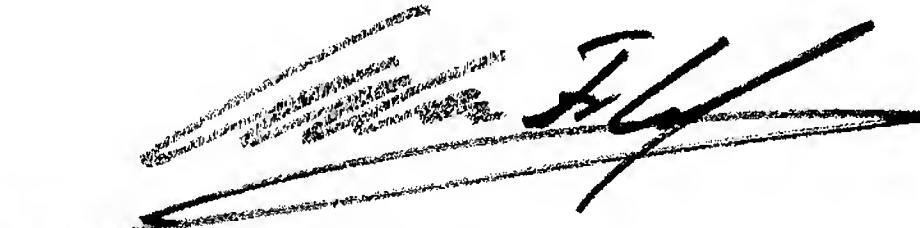
Application No. 10/599,847
Amendment dated January 31, 2012
Reply to Office Action dated November 15, 2011

no knowledge of the present invention, would modify the Suhring '503 device to arrive at the claimed invention.

In the event Applicants have overlooked the need for an extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicants hereby petition therefor and authorize that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 02-0385, Baker & Daniels LLP.

Should the Examiner have any further questions regarding any of the foregoing, he is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at 260-424-8000.

Respectfully submitted,



Adam F. Cox
Registration No. 46,644
Attorney for Applicants

AFC/mh

BAKER & DANIELS LLP
111 East Wayne Street, Suite 800
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Telephone: 260-424-8000
Facsimile: 260-460-1700